**Focusing on Data: Search a Topic**

from Smith, Michael, Jeffrey Wilhelm, and James Fredricksen. 2012. *Oh Yeah!: Putting Argument to Work Both in School and Out.* Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann. p. 62

Model how you would approach a search on a topic of interest, say, summer reading. Explain how you would start your search. Would you start with Google, Google Scholar, JSTOR, ERIC, or somewhere else and why? Talk about the search terms you’re using and how you moved from one to the next.

Have students evaluate the searches that you’ve done, ranking the first five sources that were identified in a Google search of “pros and cons of summer reading.” Do the same for sources identified in other database searches.

Simply telling students what databases and sources should be used is not enough; students should develop procedural knowledge for themselves.